Salisbury University
Nabb Research Center
Since 1982
for Delmarva History and Culture
We're History...Without You!

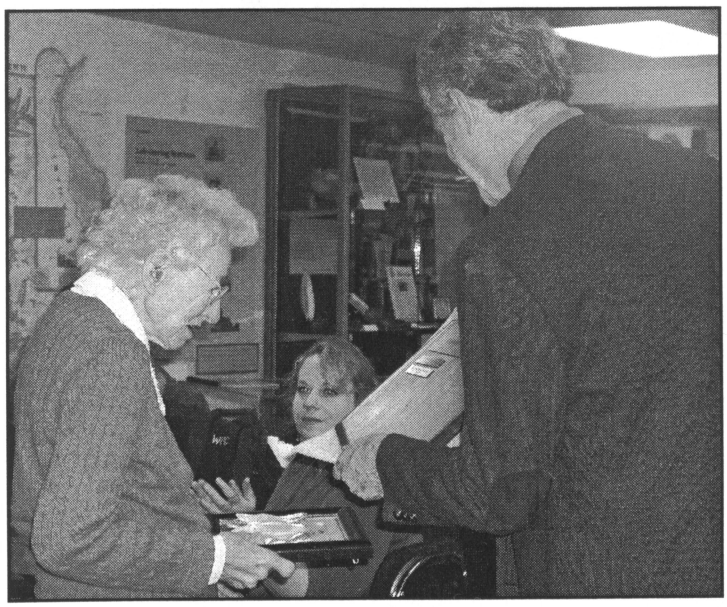
Shoreline

Vol. 16, Issue 2, February 2009

2008 Volunteer of the Year Award Winner

The Edward H. Nabb Center is pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2008 Patricia Johnson Taylor Volunteer of the Year Award is Polly Batchelder. Polly has been a volunteer at the Nabb Research Center for over 20 years. Her dedication and hard work have been invaluable to the progress and mission of the Nabb Center. Polly edited the book *A Somerset Sampler: Families of Old Somerset County, Maryland 1700-1776* which was published in 1994 and is also currently editing a work by the late Matthew Wise for future publication as well. Hardly a Tuesday goes by when you cannot find Polly hard at work at the Nabb Center, and we certainly thank her for all her continuing dedication and hard work!

The Nabb Center is always looking for new volunteers. If you or anyone you know is interested in helping the Nabb Center in its mission to preserve the history and culture of Delmarva, please contact Pat Taylor of the Nabb Center ar 410-543-6312.



Polly Batchelder receiving her Volunteer or the Year Award from Nabb Center Director, Dr. G. Ray Thompson, on December 17, 2008, at the Nabb Center

The Dialect of the Shore

By Matt Heim with special thanks to Kenneth E. Bunting

Few things represent the culture and heritage of the Eastern Shore more than its regional dialect. The dialect of the Eastern Shore belongs to a family of dialects which stretch from Lower Delaware south through Maryland and Virginia on to the Outer Banks of North Carolina. This dialect originated mostly from West Sussex, Hampshire, Wiltshire and Dorset portions of England as the early settlers of the region came from these areas. This heritage is revealed in some of the older place names of the Eastern Shore such as Dorchester, Somerset, Stockton, Salisbury and Exmore.

During more isolated times, the dialect of the Eastern Shore was widely spoken in the region, though in modern times, the dialect is often only found in more remote locales. In an effort to preserve the historical dialect of the Eastern Shore, the Nabb Center has posted information about this important part of the Shore's heritage on its Web site. This information can be found by clicking on the "Compass" link from the Nabb Center's Homepage. Be on the lookout for more Web-resources from the Nabb Center in the future!

Eastern Shore Pronunciation Chart:

hair, hare [hær]	north [nawrth]	outside [aootsaw-id]
dairy [durr-eh]	corn [cawrn]	milk [meelk]
right [raw-it]	modern [maw-dern]	head [haid]
where [wurr]	oyster [arster]	figure [fee-gyure]
fog [fogue]	inch [eench]	porch [poarch]
on [awn]	hurry [hurr-eh]	port [poart]
dogs [dogues]	house [haoose]	tires [tawrz]

Image from the John Jacob Postcard Collection

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Upcoming Events:

Celebrating African-American History Month
Wednesday, February 18, 7 p.m.
Nabb Research Center
SU East Campus Complex Room 190
Linda Duyer talks about her book, *'Round the Pond: Georgetown of Salisbury, Maryland.* Although little remains of the oldest African-American neighborhood in Salisbury, *'Round the Pond* documents some of this community's rich history.

Celebrating Woman's History Month
Wednesday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.
SU Guerrieri University Center, Wicomico Room
Dr. Melanie Perreault, chair of the SU History Department, presents the 2009 Wilcomb Washburn Distinguished Lecture in American History titled *Servants, Slaves, and Unruly Mistresses: Interpersonal Violence in the Early Chesapeake.* Perreault examines how acts of violence both challenged and reinforced community standards in the 17th century Chesapeake.

Family History Workshop Part II
Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m.-noon
Reading Room, Nabb Research Center
Director of the Edward H. Nabb Research Center, Dr. G. Ray Thompson, will introduce family researchers to approximately 60 different types of records and how they can be used to uncover more information about individual family histories. The workshop is $30 and reservations can be made by calling the Nabb Center at 410-543-6312.

Happy Valentines Day!

Postcards from the LesCallet Collection available for viewing at the Nabb Research Center